

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2021**

The Mississippi State Board of Mental Health held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at the Department of Mental Health in Jackson, Mississippi.

In Attendance:

Board Members: James Herzog, Ph.D.; Sampat Shivangi, M.D.; Manda Griffin, DNP; Mr. Courtney Phillips; Mr. Stewart Rutledge; Teresa Mosely, M.Ed.; Mr. Robert Landrum; and Sara Gleason, M.D.

Absent: Alyssa Killebrew, Ph.D.

Department of Mental Health Executive Staff: Wendy Bailey, Executive Director; Jake Hutchins, Deputy Executive Director Community Operations; Craig Kittrell, Deputy Executive Director State Operated Programs; Katie Storr, Chief of Staff; Kelly Breland, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Kristin Merritte, Chief Clinical Officer for Community IDD Services; Toni Johnson, Director, Bureau of Human Resources; Stephanie Foster, Director, Bureau of Certification and Quality Outcomes; Cyndi Eubank, Office of General Counsel; McCall Chastain, Attorney General's Office; and Dr. Robert Maddux, DMH Medical Director

Central Office Staff: Grenaye Sullivan, Recording Secretary; and Adam Moore, Office of Communication and Planning

Program Directors: Rinsey McSwain, Ellisville State School; Cindy Cooley, South Mississippi Regional Center; Dr. Paul Callens, North Mississippi State Hospital; Dr. Charles Carlisle, East Mississippi State Hospital; Sabrina Young, South Mississippi State Hospital; Dr. Edie Hayles, North Mississippi Regional Center; Jerrie Barnes, Hudspeth Regional Center; Jamie Prine, Mississippi Adolescent Center; James Chastain, Mississippi State Hospital; Shannon Bush, Specialized Treatment Facility; and Clint Ashley, Boswell Regional Center

DMH Program Assistant Directors: Donna Creekmore, East Mississippi State Hospital; Dr. Kenneth O'Neal, Ellisville State School; and Ricky Grimes, Boswell Regional Center

Other DMH Program Staff: Dr. Duncan Stone, Mississippi State Hospital; and Hunter Haney, North Mississippi Regional Center

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dr. James Herzog. Dr. Herzog asked everyone to stand while Craig Kittrell opened the meeting with the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Herzog began the meeting by introducing the Board members who have been appointed/reappointed by the Governor.

Teresa Mosley of Clinton has served one term on the Board. She stated she is interested in being reappointed because of her passion for mental health in Mississippi. She is the owner of TRM Educational Consulting and is the lead psychometrist with the Mississippi College Dyslexia Education and Evaluation Center. She spent a decade in the classroom teaching students and has also completed work for the Mississippi Department of Education in the offices of Curriculum and Instruction and School Improvement, as well numerous school districts in the state of Mississippi. Ms. Mosley has been appointed to represent

the Fourth Congressional District on the board. As a psychometrist, she brings years of experience to the Board in working with children and youth. Ms. Mosley lost her daughter to suicide when she was in the 9th grade and has been on a mission with suicide prevention efforts in our state. She has helped DMH bring attention to this area since 2007 by partnering on Shatter the Silence events. Ms. Mosley also serves on the Board of Mental Health's Strategic Planning Subcommittee and has been instrumental the last several years in helping shape the agency's strategic plan as the agency expands community-based services. Between her personal experience as a family member who lost someone to suicide and her career as a psychometrist, Ms. Mosley has been an invaluable member of the Board of Mental Health during her first term.

Robert Landrum of Ellisville has also served on Ellisville State School Parent's Association and the Mississippi Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. In 2005, he received the James "Jimmy" Stubbs Award, Commitment of Volunteer Service to Mississippians with Mental Retardation, Mental Illness, and Chemical Dependencies. He received his bachelor's and master's degree from Mississippi College. He also received a two-year degree in Computer Technology, the first graduating class, from Jones County Junior College in 1967. He is retired from teaching at Jones County Junior College. He currently serves on the Board of Mental Health's Property Subcommittee. Mr. Landrum had a child who received services at a DMH IDD Regional Program years ago. Mr. Landrum was appointed to represent the Fifth Congressional District and is a family member of a consumer. He brings a family member's perspective to the Board and has also been an invaluable member of the Board of Mental Health.

Dr. Sara Gleason is a professor and executive vice chair in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, is board-certified in psychiatry. She is director of consultation-liaison psychiatry and a supervising attending on the adult inpatient psychiatry ward and in the outpatient psychiatry clinic. She is a core faculty member in UMMC's Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities and serves as the psychiatric consultant to the Asylum Hill Research Consortium. Dr. Gleason received her medical degree from the UMMC School of Medicine and completed her residency at UMMC. Prior to entering the medical field, Dr. Gleason studied public policy as an undergraduate at Princeton University and earned a JD from the University of Michigan Law School. In 2019 she completed the executive MBA program at the Else School of Management at Millsaps College.

Dr. Herzog asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

On motion of Dr. Shivangi and second by Mr. Landrum, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Dr. Herzog then asked if there were any changes or additions to the November 2021 minutes.

On motion of Dr. Shivangi and second by Mr. Landrum, the Board voted unanimously to approve the November 2021 minutes as presented.

Kelly Breland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Consolidated Financial Summary for the Five Months (FY22) Ended November 30, 2021.

Mr. Breland presented for Board action, the "Request for Board Approval of Contracts" non-state retirees, \$50,000 or more annually and state retirees, \$20,000 or more annually.

Contracts, non-state retirees, \$50,000 or more annually					
Mississippi State Hospital					
Name	Start	End	Amount	Annual/Hourly	Description
TD Medical Solutions, LLC	1/21/22	1/20/25	\$19,233,758	\$6,411252.60	Contractor will provide nursing services; RN - \$51.92; LPN - \$35.55; CNA - \$24.99

Medical Edge Recruitment, LLC	1/21/22	1/20/25	\$21,043,887	\$7,014,629.00	Contractor will provide nursing services; RN - \$48.50; LPN - \$34.50; CNA - \$23.50
Infiniti Healthcare, LLC	1/21/22	1/20/25	\$22,252,457	\$7,417,485.00	Contractor will provide nursing services; RN - \$42; LPN - \$32; CNA - \$20.95
Precision Healthcare, LLC	1/21/22	1/20/25	\$20,730,594	\$6,910,198.00	Contractor will provide nursing services; RN - \$45; LPN - \$35; CNA - \$20
Ellisville State School					
Crimson Electrical Contractors, Inc.	1/6/22	1/5/27	\$852,300	\$170,460	Contractor will provide Master Electrician Services \$71.25/hr.; \$86.25 for after hours and \$99.25 for holidays
South Mississippi Regional Center					
Name	Start	End	Amount	Annual/Hourly	Description
TD Medical Solutions	1/5/22	12/31/26	\$3,000,000	\$600,000	Contractor will provide nursing services: RN - \$45.94; LPN - \$31.69; CNA - \$22.47
R.L Klein & Associates	1/5/22	12/31/26	\$3,000,000	\$600,000	Contractor will provide nursing services: RN - \$48.20; LPN - \$31.60; CNA - \$19.80
Selection Healthcare Services, LLC	1/5/22	12/31/26	\$3,000,000	\$600,000	Contractor will provide nursing services: RN - \$48; LPN - \$38; CNA - \$28
Central Office					
The Focus Group d/b/a The Focus Group, Inc.	2/14/22	9/30/22	\$75,000		Contractor will provide an awareness campaign for Stand Up, Mississippi
Creative Distillery	2/14/21	2/13/24	\$1,114,000		Contractor will provide a public awareness campaign for statewide behavioral health services.
Horne LLP	7/1/21	12/31/23	\$160,000		Contractor will provide professional accounting services to the agency.

On motion of Dr. Griffin and second by Dr. Shivangi the Board voted unanimously to approve the "Request for Board Approval of Contracts" non-state retirees, \$50,000 or more annually.

Wendy Bailey, Executive Director, provided a COVID-19 update. She reported that as of Tuesday, December 13, there were 11 active cases among staff and two active cases among patients/clients/residents. She reported that the vaccination numbers have increased. Ms. Bailey reported that last month, she discussed the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) rule requiring COVID-19 vaccinations of eligible staff at health care facilities that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Within this mandate issued by CMS, healthcare entities must have a plan in place to ensure all of the organizations'

employees, contract workers, and other applicable individuals receive their first dose of a Covid-19 vaccination by December 5, 2021. She reported that by January 3, 2022, all of the organizations' employees, contract workers, and other applicable individuals must be fully vaccinated. Ms. Bailey reported that on November 30, 2021, the United States District Court of the Western District of Louisiana issued a preliminary injunction enjoining and restraining CMS from implementing the vaccine mandate rule that was published November 5, 2021. This preliminary injunction shall remain in effect pending the final resolution of this case, or until further orders from this Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, or the United States Supreme Court. Ms. Bailey reported that she met with program directors the morning of December 6th to review current vaccination rates and discuss how to move forward with the policies and procedures that were implemented due to the mandate. She reported that because of the Court's ruling on November 30, DMH's programs Vaccine Mandate Policy was temporarily suspended until further notice from the Court. However, it is strongly encouraged that all staff get the Covid Vaccine and Booster Vaccines as recommended by the CDC. She reported that currently, the fully vaccinated rate is 67% and first dose is 75%. Booster shots are also offered to all staff.

Ms. Bailey provided a 2021 Year in Review highlights which included specific progress at the state-operated behavioral health programs, state-operated IDD regional programs, community mental health services for adults, community mental health services for children/youth, addiction services, and other initiatives and projects that impact the system as a whole. Dr. Herzog thanked the DMH staff for always going above and beyond what was expected. He stated that the perseverance, integratory, loyalty and dedication has been outstanding. Dr. Herzog stated that being good at your job is often more than just doing a good job, it requires teamwork and self-discipline all in which the department has demonstrated. Dr. Herzog stated that the Board appreciates Ms. Bailey and the DMH staff for standing strong together during this very difficult year and appreciates everyone's efforts.

Ms. Bailey reported that on December 6, she presented to the ARPA Senate Subcommittee during a hearing at the Capitol. She provided a copy of the presentation, detailed request, and breakdown for 4.5 fiscal years. She reported that the presentation was broken down into Behavioral Health Crisis, Behavioral Health Diversion, Behavioral Health Treatment, IDD Crisis, and Workforce Development. Ms. Bailey reported there were no questions following the presentation. She reported that following the presentation, Bill Rosamond and Jerri Avery presented the request from the Office of the Coordinator of Mental Health Accessibility including CCBHC funding and a funding request for modernization of community mental health centers - \$9.75M (facilities physical plant); common EHR system for the CMHCs - \$6M; and telehealth infrastructure - \$500,000.

Ms. Bailey reported that on December 6, she received a copy of the Quarterly Status Report for the Office of the Coordinator of Mental Health Accessibility. She reported that the majority of the report is around Region 11. Ms. Bailey provided an overview of the recommendations included in the report.

Ms. Bailey then shared copies of the most recent news articles. The articles included:

1. A dozen OD victims saved by deputies
2. Mississippi health insurers to cover telehealth visits at same rate as in-person
3. Contingency plans made for possibility of COVID job walkout
4. Vaccine mandates trickling down to health care industry
5. Chief Justice Randolph urges support for intervention courts
6. Judge: Mississippi faces crisis of alleged violent criminals with mental illnesses going back on the streets
7. Mental health advocacy group files lawsuit against state Department of Mental Health over records requests

8. State Department of Mental Health doesn't want to pay for monitor-related costs that are part of a partial stay

Ms. Bailey reported that the January 2022 Board of Mental Health meeting will be held at Mississippi State Hospital on January 20.

Jake Hutchins, Deputy Executive Director, Community Operations, provided an update on the Federal Block Grant COVID 2nd Round Funding. Mr. Hutchins reported that in May, DMH received notice of additional one-time federal funding from SAMHSA, for \$11,173,892 for the SABF and \$13,052,279 for the MHBG. He reported that the block grant programs make funds available to all 50 states and support grant recipients in planning and implementing mental health services and substance use prevention and treatment services. He reported that the 2nd round of funding (ARPA) proposals were due to SAMSHA on August 2 and DMH received notification of approval on September 28. He reported that the plan includes: 5% set aside for HIV and priorities include collaboration project with the Department of Health and revision and update of HIV education materials. The proposal also included the development of the Congressional Outreach Recovery Program; 20% set aside for prevention with priorities including evidence-based screening tools and curriculums, risk messaging with evidence-informed strategies, and technical assistance. Priorities in treatment included pregnant/parenting women with continuation of targeted house programs and childcare SUD crisis services; recovery support services, intervention; hiring of data analyst at all CMHCs; and services expansion.

Mr. Hutchins reported that in May, DMH received notice of additional one-time federal funding from SAMHSA, for \$13,052,279 for the MHBG and \$11,173,892 for the SABG. He reported that notice of approval was received on October 20. He reported that the MHBG 2nd round of funding proposal for adult services includes a 10% crisis set aside to support mobile crisis response and implementation of 988; purchase of service, supported employment, Certified Peer Support Specialists at CSUs, medication assistance fund, diversion coordination, and technical assistance/evidenced-based training. The MHBG 2nd round of funding proposal for children/youth services includes a 10% first episode psychosis set aside; safe-beds for children and adolescents; mental, emotional, and social well-being in school-aged youth; technical assistance/evidenced-based training, and community outreach initiative. Mr. Hutchins reported that with this funding, Mississippi can continue to address gaps and needs and increase access to services mentioned.

Stephanie Foster, Director, Bureau of Certification and Quality Outcomes, presented a request to file for public comment with the Secretary of State's office DMH proposed MYPAC rules; also known as - Mississippi Youth Programs Around the Clock. She reported that MYPAC is a set of time-limited intensive services provided in the home or community setting to children and youth with serious emotional disturbance from birth up to the age of 21, the overall goal being to prevent unnecessary out-of-home placement. Once the proposed rules are filed and they migrate through the public comment period, they will then be filed for final adoption and ultimately become a permanent part of the DMH Operational Standards document. Ms. Foster reported that MYPAC was previously administered by the MS Division of Medicaid. However, earlier in 2021, Medicaid discontinued MYPAC. She reported that Ms. Bailey and Mr. Hutchins received requests from providers and other interested parties, and even Medicaid itself, for DMH to reestablish and take ownership of MYPAC. Ms. Bailey considered these requests and agreed to work with Medicaid and offer MYPAC as a new DMH-certified service. Ms. Foster reported that Dr. Mallory Malkin, Chief Clinical Officer for Behavioral Health, and Ms. Lynda Stewart, Director of Children and Youth Services, in collaboration with Medicaid, then developed the proposed MYPAC rules. She reported that on October 14, 2021, these proposed rules were filed on a temporary basis with the Secretary of State's office so that the rules could become

effective immediately. The purpose of the temporary rules filing was to expedite the transition of MYPAC to DMH to promote continuity of services and assist providers. The temporary filing is not permanent and will sunset on approximately February 11, 2022 Ms. Foster presented a request permission to file the DMH MYPAC rules for a 25-day public comment period so that DMH can begin the process of permanently including these rules in the DMH Operational Standards document.

On motion of Mr. Landrum and second by Mr. Rutledge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request to file the DMH MYPAC rules for a 25-day public comment period so that DMH can begin the process of permanently including these rules in the DMH Operational Standards document.

Katie Storr, Chief of Staff, presented the 2022 Legislative Session. She reported that the 2022 Legislative Session is set to convene on January 4. Ms. Storr provided a copy of the Grassroots Legislative Team meeting that was held on December 8, 2021. She reported that the DMH Legislative Team meets weekly to discuss bills that are pertinent to DMH. She also provided the Board a copy of the white papers that will be presented to the Legislators during the session. She also provided a copy of the timetable for processing legislation. Ms. Storr reported that January 17 is the deadline for general bills to be introduced.

Craig Kittrell, Deputy Executive Director, State Operated Programs, presented the Monthly Survey Reports for Mississippi State Hospital, North Mississippi State Hospital, Ellisville State School, Mississippi Adolescent Center, and North Mississippi Regional Center.

Dr. Edie Hayles, Director, North Mississippi Regional Center, presented the NMRC Review. She reported that NMRC was created by the Mississippi Legislature in 1968 through House Bill 374. She reported that Oxford was chosen as the location because of the partnership between the city, the University of Mississippi and Lafayette County to increase services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to improve the research on IDD in collaboration with an institute of higher learning and to enhance the medical knowledge on IDD in connection with local medical hospitals and resources. The first individuals with IDD were admitted for specialized residential services on the Oxford main campus on August 27, 1973. Dr. Hayles reported that NMRC is licensed as an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) which provides specialized residential and habilitation services to people with IDD eligible for an ICF Level of Care. NMRC is also licensed to provide Support Coordination services through the MS ID/DD Waiver and Targeted Case Management services through the 1915i Program. Dr. Hayles reported that in partnership with the Department of Rehabilitation Services, the Technology Assistive Device (TAD) Center on the main campus provides evaluations and resources on assistive devices for students with IDD serviced in public school districts in north Mississippi. She reported that currently, NMRC serves 362 individuals with IDD under the ICF license and ten cottages on the main campus and 22 community homes spanning across the northeastern 32 counties of the State of Mississippi certified for ICF level of care. Dr. Hayles provided an overview of NMRC's community outreach activities, updates on the buildings and grounds, evidence-based practices, and a historical perspective for FY21.

Patient Care Subcommittee Report:

Dr. Duncan Stone reported that the Patient Care Subcommittee met prior to the Board meeting. The Patient Care Subcommittee recommended the following medical appointments:

Mississippi State Hospital

Frank Perkins, MD
Sal Dhaklalla, MD

On a motion by Dr. Shivangi and a second by Mr. Rutledge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the reappointments.

Dr. Carlisle reported that he will retiring from East Mississippi State Hospital in June 2022.

With no further business, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn this meeting.


CHAIRMAN


EXECUTIVE SECRETARY